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are of special interest: first, mineral rights are essentially disconnected from tenure of the surface; second, the sovereign is the sole proprietor of mines and alone may grant individuals power to work them. The author has found his material inadequate to answer the question whether English mining laws represent a seizure of private property under asserted regalian rights, or are fragments of a customary law antedating private property in land, or whether the mines were worked from the first under customs demanded by the peculiarities of the mining industry.

In the chapter on privileges and trade rules, there is a discussion of the right to dig tin wherever found and the limitations on that right. The author's treatment of industrial organization includes a brief sketch of the progress of mining organization in Germany, and in his last chapter he observes that early mining law was free from anything approaching the restraints of the guild system. Mining was characterized also by the earlier introduction of capitalistic forms of enterprise and further by an earlier introduction of the middleman than in other industries.

The eight chapters include the following: technical conditions; external history of the stannaries and the tin trade, early mining law, administration and justice, taxation and revenue, privileges and trade rules, industrial organization, labor and capital.

RAYMOND V. PHELAN.

University of Minnesota.

McCormick, F. *The Tragedy of Russia in Pacific Asia.* 2 Vols. Pp. xxx, 913. Price, \$3.00 each. New York: Outing Publishing Company, 1907.

COTES, E. *Signs and Portents in the Far East.* Pp. 308. Price, \$2.50. New York: Putnam's Sons, 1907.

Among the rich literature that has grown out of the experiences of the Russo-Japanese War, the book of Mr. McCormick occupies a pre-eminence which it shares with very few others. Indeed there is no other book on the war which combines so many elements of excellence. Not only is it an intensely fascinating account of the great campaigns seen from the Russian ranks, but it is a deep study of the psychology of war, of military organization, strategy, and the great variety of human elements that went into the making of this vast drama. Mr. McCormick has indeed been rewarded for his courage and persistency, in braving the dangers of associating himself with the Russian troops in days when the Americans were intensely hated by them and in defying all the hardships of war; because this has enabled him to give an account of entirely unique value. While the human interest predominates in this work and imparts to it a great fascination, the author's studies of affairs and his insight into human nature have enabled him to make many valuable observations upon policies and political characteristics. He draws a vivid picture of the lack of intelligence and the demoralization on the Russian side. "The talents and energy spent in dissipation and graft were enough to have won the war twice over,"—that is his deliberate judgment. The Russian troops, while individually brave, were still largely in the

"javelin age" and not able to fulfill the demands of modern military organization. Their initial overconfidence, nursed by false intelligence kept alive by the government, gradually gave way to the conviction that the war was a national crime and that the Russian organization was utterly evil. Towards the end of the war, the author found among the Russians only one man who expressed contempt for the Japanese and his views were so unwelcome to his hearers that it was a dangerous matter to express them. In these days when so many persons have suddenly veered in their judgment and turned utterly against Japan, denying her every vestige of civilization, the testimony of such a witness as the author, who saw the action of the Japanese troops from the enemy's side, ought to be listened to and weighed by thinking men. In the judgment of the Russian army the Japanese had kept up the highest standards of civilized nations in their behavior before and during battles and in the considerateness with which they treated their conquered enemies thereafter. Their spontaneous loyalty, their self-reliance, and ready self-sacrifice, contrasted strangely with the apathy and discouragement of the Russian troops. The author counsels America against harboring her prejudices and fomenting her grievances, offering the Oriental peoples a mere political good will which costs nothing, instead of a thorough sympathy and understanding which might help in solving the difficulties of the world. The work of Mr. McCormick is a commentary on the values of civilization as they revealed themselves in a great struggle.

The book of Mr. Cotes, notwithstanding its portentous title, is merely a well written and interesting account of the trip of an intelligent journalist along the main highway through China and Korea to Japan. We do not encounter any new interpretation of the present Oriental situation, nor are there revealed any new facts which would materially influence our judgment. But upon the various movements which are going on in China at the present time the author gives interesting and valuable testimony. His account of the manner in which governmental power in China is circumscribed by the custom of popular resistance, and his description of educational and industrial advance in Chinese cities, are very informing. When, however, he sees no hope for China except through the establishment of a virtual European protectorate, it is plain that his Anglo-Indian prejudices determine his judgment.

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Shambaugh, Bertha M. H. *Amana, The Community of True Inspiration.*
Pp. 414. Iowa City: The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1908.

For many years the community of Amana has been widely known as one of the most successful, both in its finances and its long life, of the German communistic settlements in America. By long years of residence near the community and frequent visits, Mrs. Shambaugh is well qualified to tell its story and interpret its life. The general history has been told many times. No one to my knowledge has quite told of its inner life and spirit as has the